

Finnegan's 411



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Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month *except July and August* at the BPO Elks Lodge, 30 Haven Ave. Port Washington, N.Y. **2000 hrs (8:00 PM)** We value your membership! Your support, input and participation in the detachment's affairs are important to our success! Come to the meeting, get involved!

Support Your Detachment!

May 2009

The Official Newsletter of
Marine Corps League Detachment 614
Port Washington, N.Y.

"Once A Marine, Always A Marine"

www.orgsites.com/ny/port-washington-marines/index.html

Ahoy, Leathernecks!

May has finally arrived. Did you know May is "Military Appreciation Month"? There are several events going on in the area including the celebration of "Armed Forces Day", Fleet Week, Jones Beach Air show and of course Memorial Day. Check your local newspapers for events and activities going on in your neighborhoods. May also ushers in warmer weather and, after Memorial Day, the "unofficial" start of summer.

As you all know, our April meeting consisted primarily of the installation of the new detachment Officers for 2009-2010. Past Commandant **Stan Derby** presided over the ceremony and swearing in of our Officers.

Congratulations and good luck to Commandant **John Bauman**, who retains his position for another year, Sr. Vice Commandant **Tom Kenney**, Jr. Vice Commandant **Vinny Annunziata**, Judge Advocate **John Burke** and Adjutant **John Donovan**. Many thanks to Past Sr. Vice Commandant **Boyd Nelson** and Past Jr. Vice Commandant **Rudy Jonak** for your leadership, service and support of the detachment!

Prior to the installation ceremony we had the pleasure of welcoming a new member into the detachment. Welcome aboard to **Chet Jaworowski**! Chet reported to Parris Island in March 1967 and served through January 1970 as a 2542 Communication Center Operator. Chet is a carpenter and he and his wife Linda currently live in Commack. Our able Chaplain, **Wilson Meade** recruited Chet into the detachment. Good work Willy!

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday May 14, 2009** at 8:00 PM as usual at the Elks Lodge. But feel free to arrive a little early. The Bar opens at 7:30PM for pre-meeting aperitifs and good old Marine Corps camaraderie. Bring a (former Marine) friend!

We are hoping for a large turn out of detachment members to march in this year's Port Washington Memorial Day Parade. As in the past, we will muster on Campus Dr. (Port Washington Blvd. north, 2 ½ blks south of Main St.) at 9:30 AM on Monday, May 25. The parade will kick off at 10:00 AM. But this year we are trying something a little different...

Up Coming Events



Sunday
May 10, 2009
Mother's Day

Thursday
May 14, 2009
Detachment Meeting
2000 Hrs (8:00 PM)
Elks Lodge
30 Haven Ave.
Port Washington, N.Y.

Saturday
May 16, 2009
Armed Forces Day

Wednesday
May 20, 2009
Detachment Luncheon
See newsletter for details

Wednesday
May 20, 2009
through
Monday
May 25, 2009
NYC Fleet Week

Saturday May 23, 2009
And
Sunday May 24, 2009
Jones Beach Air Show
Featuring the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds
10:00 AM till 3:00 PM

Monday
May 25, 2009
Memorial Day



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There's no such thing as an "ex" Marine!



Detachment members **Mike Kummer** has volunteered the use of his Jeep to transport up to 4 members of the detachment, who may wish to participate in the parade but due to physical limitations, may be unable to complete the march on foot. The jeep will follow directly behind the detachment's marching component. If you want to avail yourself of Mike's offer, let him know right away. The first 4 members who call him will be the ones getting the ride. Uniform of the day for all detachment members will be Marine Corps League Cover, a red or white shirt or jacket identifying you as a League member, black trousers and black shoes.

Paymaster **Stan Derby** has arranged for the detachment to enjoy lunch with the Cadets of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy on Wednesday May 20, 2009. We will be dining at *Melville Hall*, the Academy's "O" Club, where we will meet, at 12:00 PM. The cost of lunch is \$15.00 per person. This includes a delicious buffet. Salad bar, rolls, butter, dessert, coffee & tea are also included. Please feel free to invite your wives, girlfriends or significant other (but not both) to join us. After lunch, those who wish may tour the Academy's museum free of charge. And for those of us who may still be aboard the Academy at 4:00 PM, they do hold a "Social Hour" with a cash bar, which we can attend. The Academy is located at: 300 Steamboat Rd. Kings Point, N.Y. If you are interested in joining us, please notify Stan or Commandant **John Bauman** ASAP. Our reservations have to be made two days prior to our lunch date.

To get to the Academy; travel north on South Middle Neck Rd from Northern Blvd. in Great Neck approx. 2/3 of a mile to Great Neck Plaza where the road becomes Middle Neck Rd. Continue north approx 1 1/2 mile to Steamboat Rd and turn left. Take Steamboat Rd to the main gate of the Academy.

The *Jones Beach Air Show* is scheduled for Saturday May 23 and Sunday May 24 from 10:00 AM till 3:00 PM. Admission is free; parking costs \$8.00 per vehicle. This year's feature performance will be by the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds. There will also be a *practice* air show on Friday May 22 from 10:00 AM till 3:00 PM. Several detachment members have been to the practice show in the past. They've reported that the show is terrific and the crowds are much smaller than on "game day".

"*Stars and Stripes*" reports the Marine Corps is *still* trying to reach Marines, civilians, and their families who lived at Camp Lejeune, N.C., over a 30-year period when the drinking water was contaminated. Former residents of Camp Lejeune, N.C., **who lived or worked there before 1988** are encouraged to register with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, by calling (877) 261-9782 Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST. Or visit the U.S. Marine Corps website www.usmc.mil If this pertains to you, get it done!

Finally, the trip committee reports that due to a variety of issues i.e. scheduling conflicts, financial concerns and a less than ample number of members expressing interest in making the venture, our June trip to Quantico and the National Museum of the Marine Corps is being cancelled. If, in the future, enough members express interest in taking the trip again we will resurrect the committee and have another go at it.

MEMBER MILESTONES: MAY 2009

Jim Buatti enlisted in the Corps 41 years ago on May 1, 1968. Quick, what's your first General Order?

Dennis Cummings celebrates 40 years of wedded bliss on May 4. Congratulations to you and **Marge**!

Stan Derby celebrates his 22nd Anniversary in the League. Congratulations!

Dominic Grosso celebrates his 32nd wedding anniversary on May 6th. Congratulations to you and the Missus!

Rudy Jankus celebrates his 38th wedding anniversary on May 1st. Congratulations to you and **Eleanor**!

Less Kent celebrates his 13th anniversary in the League this month. Congratulations!

Mike Kummer celebrates his 38th wedding anniversary May 30th. Congratulations to you and **Pat**!

Boyd Nelson celebrates his 42nd wedding anniversary on May 27. Congratulations to you and **Joan**!

Tom Piccininni celebrates another birthday on May 18th. Happy Birthday!

Carmine Santoli celebrates his **61st** wedding anniversary May 15th. *Wow!* Congratulations to you and **Teresa**!

Walter Whitelaw celebrates another birthday May 7th. Happy Birthday!

If you wish to be included in the **Member Milestones** column or if there is incorrect or incomplete information indicated, notify Tom Kenney and the proper adjustments will be made.



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THIS MONTH IN MARINE CORPS HISTORY:

2 May 1946: Marines from Treasure Island Marine Barracks, under the command of Warrant Officer Charles L. Buckner, aided in suppressing the three-day prison riot at Alcatraz Penitentiary in San Francisco Bay. WO Buckner, a veteran of the Bougainville and Guam campaigns, ably led his force of Marines without suffering a single casualty.

5 May 1983: In Beirut, Lebanon, a UH-1N helicopter carrying the commander of the American peace-keeping force, Colonel James Mead, was hit by machine gun fire. The six Marines aboard escaped injury. Colonel Mead and his crew had taken off in the helicopter to investigate artillery and rocket duels between rival Syrian-backed Druze Moslem militiamen and Christian Phalangists that endangered french members of the multinational force.

8 May 1995: In the wake of the most devastating storm to hit the New Orleans area in more than 200 years, a group of Marines and sailors from Marine Forces Reserve demonstrated the quick response synonymous with the Navy/Marine Corps team. Within 24 hours of being called, Marines assisted in the evacuation of 2,500 civilians, and Navy corpsmen treated scores of flood victims.

10 May 1945: The 22nd Marines of the 6th Marine Division, executed a pre-dawn attack south across the Asa River Estuary and seized a bridgehead from which to continue the attack toward Naha, the capital of Okinawa.

15 May 1862: Corporal John Mackie, the first Marine to earn the Medal of Honor, was commended for service in the USS GALENA during action against Confederate shore batteries at Drewry's Bluff, which blocked the James River approaches to Richmond.

16 May 1945: The 22d and 29th Marines continued the attack against Half Moon Hill, a day characterized by the 6th Marine Division as the "bitterest" of the Okinawa campaign. By the 18th, the famed "Shuri line" had been breached.

22 May 1912: First Lieutenant Alfred A. Cunningham, the first Marine officer to be assigned to "duty in connection with aviation" by Major General Commandant William P. Biddle, reported for aviation training at the Naval Aviation Camp at Annapolis, Maryland, and Marine aviation had its official beginning.

May 1988: The V-22 Osprey, the world's first production tilt-rotor aircraft, made its debut during rollout ceremonies at Bell Helicopter Textron's Arlington, Texas, facility. More than 1,000 representatives from the military, industry, and media, gathered to hear various speakers, including Gen Alfred Gray, Commandant of the Marine Corps, praise the versatile rotorcraft designed to meet the needs of 21st Century battlefields.

26 May 1969: Operation Pipestone Canyon began when the 1st Battalion, 26th Marines and 3d Battalion, 5th Marines began sweeps in the Dodge City/Go Noi areas southwest of Da Nang. It terminated at the end of June with 610 enemy killed in action at a cost of 34 Marines killed.

29 May 1991: Elements of a joint task force that included the 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade departed the Bay of Bengal off the coast of Bangladesh after nearly two weeks of disaster relief operations following a devastating cyclone. The joint task force delivered tons of relief supplies using helicopters, C-130s, and landing craft in Operation Sea Angel.

Quotable Quotes:

"Marines have a cynical approach to war. They believe in three things; liberty, payday and that when two Marines are together in a fight, one is being wasted".

War correspondent **Ernie Pyle**, killed on Ie Shima, an island off Okinawa, in the Ryukyu Archipelago, 1945

Semper Fi

Tom

Good night Chesty, where ever you are!

Questions? Comments? Sound Off! USMC7585@verizon.net Do we have your E-Mail address? If not, send it and we'll add you to our mailing list.

No computer? No E-Mail address? NO PROBLEM! Contact the newsletter editor, Tom Kenney at: 226-49B Kingsbury Ave. Bayside, N.Y. 11364. Telephone: (718) 776-2045 (Home) (516) 456-9186 (Cell)

"Once A Marine, Always A Marine!"